

UNDERSTANDING KOREA 10 REUNIFICATION QUESTION



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1. Origin of Korea's Reunification Question

The Korean nation, which had lived on the same territory, using one language, creating one history and culture and carrying forward one lineage throughout its 5 000-year history, was divided into the north and the south owing to the US occupation of south Korea in 1945.

Since then, Korea's reunification question has become a focal point of world politics.

2. Situation at the Time of Korea's Division

In 1945, in the wake of the defeat of the fascist Germany in Europe, the Pacific war unleashed by Japan was coming to a conclusion in Asia.

In the dead of night on August 9, when the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and the Soviet forces launched military operations against Japan, a Supreme War Council meeting was convened in the presence of the "Emperor" in the general headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. It ended with the final decision on accepting the Potsdam Declaration and offering surrender.

But the point was to which country of the Allies including the Soviet Union and the United States it should offer its surrender first.

In view of the situation, the scales were tipped

towards the Soviet forces which were storming through the vast areas of Far East including Northeast China and the Korean peninsula.

Nevertheless, the commander of the Japanese Army in Korea sent an open message to the general headquarters in Tokyo on the early morning of August 10. He expressed his intention to surrender to the US forces. The message was instantly wiretapped by the US intelligence service, which had already captured the code book of the Japanese army and been keeping up with the intentions and movements of the Japanese military authorities.

Under the pretext of its receipt of Japan's surrender, the US hatched a plan to occupy south Korea.

3. Inventor of the 38th Parallel

Originally, the US had planned to conquer the whole of Korea, availing itself of Japan's fall.

But things turned unfavourably with the general offensive of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and the entry of the Soviet forces in the war against Japan. The US had to make hurry to seize at least one half of the Korean peninsula.

At the time US troops were still lingering in Okinawa and the Philippines far away from Korea.

On August 10, 1945, Truman ordered Dean Rusk

(later Secretary of State) and Charles Bonesteel (later commander-in-chief of the UN Forces in south Korea), officers who were standing duty at the Department of War, to draw a line of division within 30 minutes for receiving the Japanese army's surrender by the US and the Soviet forces, respectively on the Korean peninsula.

The two young officers drew a demarcation line along the 38th Parallel of the north latitude with a pencil and a ruler. Dean Rusk later recalled that they had opted for the 38th Parallel after discussion and the main purpose was to include Seoul and the port of Inchon in the area under the control of the US forces.

This is how the demarcation line along the 38th Parallel came into being, and this brought about the tragic division of Korea, not a defeated nation in the East, caused by the US.

4. The US Landing in South Korea

Although it had designated the area south of the 38th Parallel as an area under its control, the US could not immediately set foot on the south Korean soil owing to the shortage of its troops and means of transport.

On August 20, 1945, Douglas MacArthur, commander of all US army forces in the Pacific, who was in Manila, the Philippines, wired a special order,

urging Abe, the Japanese Korean Governor-General in Seoul, to maintain social order there until the arrival of the US forces.

The following day, tens of thousands of leaflets containing proclamation in the name of John Hodge, commander of the US 24th Army Corps in Okinawa, who were appointed to enter south Korea, were scattered over Seoul from aircraft, making public that the US army would enter south Korea and enforce military administration.

On September 2, MacArthur proclaimed again that the area south of the 38th Parallel in Korea would be placed under the occupation of the US army, as soon as the ceremony of signing the document of surrender of Japan was over on the USS *Missouri*, anchoring in Tokyo Bay.

Only on September 8, a month after Japan's fall, the US army, the so-called liberator, landed in south Korea.

5. The US Purpose of Occupation of South Korea

The US had long coveted the favourable geographical location and rich natural resources of Korea. The Second World War provided an optimal opportunity for it to realize its ambition for invading and controlling the country.

Entering the year 1945, when the defeat of Japan

became a fait accompli, the US prepared an operation plan in anticipation of the Japan's surrender. The general strategy was to forestall others in seizing Korea under Japan's occupation.

However, the amazing speed of advance of both the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and the Soviet forces completely wrecked the US plan.

That is why the US worked out the plan for occupying at least the southern part of Korea with the 38th Parallel as a demarcation line.

The major purpose of the US occupation of south Korea was to turn it into a logistics base for conquering the whole of Korea and into a military strategical base for the realization of its invasion of the Asian continent and its ambition for world hegemony.

6. Illegality of the US Occupation of South Korea

By occupying south Korea, the US seriously violated the sovereignty of the Korean nation.

The US occupied south Korea and divided the Korean nation in breach of international law that demands respect for the sovereignty of each country and nation.

The sovereign rights of the Korean nation to live and develop as a homogenous nation were trampled upon mercilessly by the US.

The division of Korea and occupation of its southern part by the US is also an illegal act that defies the international agreements on the Korean issue.

During the Second World War the US and other Powers held several rounds of discussion on the postwar treatment of Korea and adopted a series of international agreements and declarations concerning it. But none of them specified a line for dividing the areas for operation to disarm the Japanese army by the Soviet and the US forces, division of Korea.

7. Lack of Justification for the US Military Rule in South Korea

Military rule, in a nutshell, is military administration by an occupation army. In other words, it means that the political, economic, cultural and all other fields in a region occupied either in the course of a war or as a war result are administered directly by the military organ of the occupation army.

The military administrations established in both Germany and Japan after the Second World War were aimed at their postwar treatment according to the agreements by victorious countries.

However, by enforcing military rule in south Korea that was not part of a defeated nation, the US wantonly violated international law and practice.

8. Difficulties in Establishing a Unified Democratic Provisional Government in Korea

After liberation on August 15, 1945, in north Korea, firm foundations were laid for building a unified and democratic, independent and sovereign state thanks to the successful progress of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and building of a new society.

However, the Korean people's struggle to build a unified, democratic state faced grave difficulties and hardships.

After occupying south Korea, the US sought to continue its domination over south Korea by rigging up a puppet government with its stooges by resorting to neo-colonial method.

In February 1946, it set up the South Korean Democratic Assembly, a consultative body of the US military administration, and appointed Syngman Rhee, a stooge long groomed by it, as its chairman. In December the same year, it cobbled together the Interim Legislative Assembly, a puppet legislative organ.

In June 1947, the US military government office was renamed the South Korea Interim Government.

9. Break-up of the USSR-US Joint Commission for Discussion of the Korean Question

The USSR-US Joint Commission was formed with a

delegate of the headquarters of the Soviet army stationed in north Korea and a delegate of the US forces occupying south Korea for discussing the establishment of a Korean interim government as decided by the conference of foreign ministers of three countries—USSR, US and Britain—held in Moscow in December 1945.

However, the US schemed to set up a separate puppet regime centred on pro-American elements.

When there was a debate over those eligible for consultation for the formation of the interim government, it insisted on forming a “consultative committee” with the exclusion of democratic political parties and social organizations, on the basis of the South Korean Democratic Assembly and in presence of a few delegates from north Korea, and empowering the committee to make a list of ministers of the interim government and establish even the provisional constitution.

The Soviet side rejected it and suggested that both the Soviet and US forces withdraw simultaneously from Korea by the end of 1948 and the Korean question be settled by the Korean people themselves.

The US wrecked the work of the joint commission and brought the Korean question to the UN.

10. Aim of the US Bringing of the Korean Question to the UN

The US intentionally scuttled the work of the USSR-US Joint Commission for the establishment of a unified, democratic interim government in Korea and brought the Korean issue to the UN. It did so to perpetuate its occupation of south Korea by holding a separate election in the name of the UN and legitimatizing the subsequent formation of a puppet government in south Korea.

At the Second Session of the UN General Assembly the US used its voting machine to adopt a resolution on officially adding the Korean issue to the agenda items of the session.

Consequently, the Korean question came to be discussed at the First Committee of the UN General Assembly from October 1947.

11. Illegality of Bringing the Korean Question to the UN

Korea was neither an aggressive state nor a defeated nation.

The Korean nation had been maltreated in the past under colonial yoke and won its liberation by fighting against the aggressors.

There was no reason whatsoever why the Korean issue had to be subjected to foreign intervention.

The US bringing of the Korean question to the UN was an act which ran counter to the UN Charter.

Even if it had to be discussed at the UN, a delegate of the Korean people should have to be present there in accordance with the principle of the UN Charter which stipulates that a country shall be invited to participate in the discussion relating to its dispute.

However, the US denied any delegate of the Korean people access to the whole process of the discussion, starting with taking the issue to the UN, thus preventing their will from being reflected in the discussion.

At a session of the UN General Assembly held in November 1947, the US, availing itself of its satellite states occupying the majority, made sure that the resolution on forming the UN Temporary Commission on Korea and under its supervision holding “elections” and establishing a “government” in Korea was adopted.

12. UN Temporary Commission on Korea

The UN Temporary Commission on Korea is a nominal apparatus the US set up in the name of the UN to whitewash its policy of dividing Korea and establish a puppet government in south Korea.

With the protest of the people mounting high in both the north and south of Korea against the commission, the

US ensured that the UN Small Assembly was held in February 1948, which passed a resolution on holding elections first in possible areas under the supervision of the commission, in other words, holding separate elections in south Korea.

Then the UN Temporary Commission on Korea made up of delegates of satellite countries of the US was formed and sent to south Korea.

The south Korean people waged the February 7 National Salvation Struggle, dealing a telling blow at the commission.

13. February 7 National Salvation Struggle

The February 7 National Salvation Struggle started against the entry of the UN Temporary Commission on Korea in south Korea on January 8, 1948.

The general strike that began with the strike of workers at Yongdungpho and spread on February 7 to all other parts of south Korea involving about 40 cities such as Seoul, Taejon, Mokpho, Pusan and Inchon was participated by about 80 000 workers from hundreds of factories and enterprises in different sectors including the railway and telecommunications sectors.

Peasants, too, rose up in the struggle, and the youth and students staged strikes and demonstrations.

The February 7 National Salvation Struggle played a

great role in dealing a blow at the “May 10 separate elections” in south Korea.

14. Struggle Against the “May 10 Separate Elections”

The struggle against the “May 10 separate elections” was a massive anti-US national salvation struggle waged by all the Korean people in the north and south to frustrate the US plot of setting up a puppet government in south Korea and achieve democratic reunification and independence of the country.

Under the active support of the north Korean people, one million workers in south Korea raised the torchlight of general strike on May 8, 1948, against the “separate elections.”

Strikes and uprisings spread across south Korea.

According to the watered-down data published by the US military government, the south Korean people attacked 228 election offices and executed many policemen and “candidates” within a week before and after the “May 10 separate elections.”

The struggle demonstrated far and wide the united strength of all the Korean people in the north and south who were fighting against the US colonial enslavement policy and for the sovereignty of the country and the establishment of a unified government.

15. Major Policy for National Reunification Set Forth by North Korea

The 25th meeting of the central committee of the Democratic National United Front of North Korea, held in March 1948, made public a major policy for national reunification, that the country should be reunified independently and in a peaceful way, by the efforts of the Korean people themselves on democratic principles, without interference of any foreign forces.

Settling the question of national reunification without interference of any foreign forces, in accordance with the fundamental interests and will of the Korean people and by the efforts of the Korean people themselves is their sacred right to national self-determination no one can encroach upon.

Achieving national reunification on democratic principles means achieving it in the way of establishing a unified central government by holding the democratic general elections in the north and south in accordance with the free will and demand of all the Korean people.

16. April North-South Joint Conference

The North-South Joint Conference, held in Pyongyang in April 1948, was attended by 695 representatives from 56 political parties and public organizations which embraced a total of more than ten

million members. It was also attended by representatives of overseas compatriots.

The joint conference adopted *Resolution on the Political Situation in Korea* and *Appeal to All the Korean Compatriots*.

The resolution and appeal declared solemnly that the Korean people would never recognize the puppet “government” to be set up by the “separate elections” and would establish their genuine unified government on democratic principles and by their own efforts.

They called on all the Korean people to turn out as one in the struggle to check and frustrate the “separate elections” in south Korea to be held under the supervision of the UN Temporary Commission on Korea, a tool of the US for aggression.

The joint conference was the first historic meeting of representatives of the north and south of Korea, which discussed measures for the independent reunification of the country.

17. Necessities for Establishing an All-Korea Central Government

Despite the failure of the “separate elections” in south Korea, held on May 10, 1948, the US cobbled together a puppet “government” by doctoring the result of the “elections.”

The prevailing situation demanded that the Korean people take proactive and decisive measures for preventing territorial split and national division and achieving the independent reunification of the country.

This demand could be met only through the establishment of a central government for all Korea.

Only when an all-Korea central government was formed, was it possible to establish a legitimate government representing the interests and opinions of all the people in the north and south of Korea and rally them under its banner to stage an energetic struggle for the independent reunification of the country.

18. Discussion of the Question of Founding a Unified Central Government

Between late June and early July of 1948, a consultative meeting of leaders of political parties and public organizations in north and south Korea was convoked in Pyongyang.

The meeting, held amid the worsening crises of territorial split and national division owing to the “May 10 separate elections,” was attended by leaders of more than 30 political parties and public organizations in north and south Korea.

The meeting made an analysis of the prevailing political situation and set forth the task of founding a

Democratic People's Republic of Korea without delay as a decisive measure for national salvation and national reunification.

The meeting adopted the following decision:

1. If a south Korean puppet "government" is set up by the south Korean "National Assembly" fabricated illegally by the US, we will expose and reject it decisively.

2. All the Korean people will establish the central government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by holding nationwide elections.

3. The Supreme People's Assembly and the Government of the Republic will ensure that foreign troops are withdrawn simultaneously from north and south Korea.

The decisions inspired the Korean people to turn out as one in the struggle to establish an all-Korea government.

19. Founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The north-south general elections were preceded by a discussion of the draft Constitution of the DPRK by all the people in the north and south.

Then measures were taken to hold elections of deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly.

The Central Election Committee was formed, and election committees were organized at constituencies and sub-constituencies with representatives of different political parties and public organizations.

In August 1948, general elections of deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly were held.

In the northern half, where the elections took place in a free atmosphere, 99.97% of the electorate went to the polls.

In south Korea, despite harsh crackdown and terror, 77.52% of the eligible voters elected their representatives.

On the basis of the victory in the north-south general elections, the Supreme People's Assembly was formed. The First Session of the SPA, held in September 1948, proclaimed the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

20. Founding of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea

In June 1949, a conference for the founding of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea was held in Pyongyang.

Proceeding from the urgent demand for preventing a war and achieving the independent, peaceful reunification of the country by dint of the united strength

of all patriotic forces of the entire nation under the prevailing situations, the conference discussed the agenda item of founding the DFRK and making concerted efforts for the reunification of the country.

The DFRK was founded in the form of a coalition of 71 political parties and public organizations which were struggling for the reunification and independence of the country and its democratic development, regardless of difference in political view and religion.

With the birth of the DFRK, people from all walks of life in the north and south of Korea could turn out as a more solidly united force in the struggle for national reunification.

21. Struggle of the DFRK for Peaceful Reunification

In June 1949, the Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea, in relation to the “march north” rackets of the US and its south Korean puppets, advanced a proposal on avoiding a fratricidal war and reunifying the country in a peaceful way.

On June 7, 1950, it convened an enlarged meeting of its Central Committee, in which it adopted an appeal to all democratic political parties, public organizations and people in the north and south of Korea.

The appeal reads in part:

1. A unified supreme legislative body shall be established by holding all-Korea north-south general elections between the approaching August 5 and 8, and a meeting of the supreme legislative body convened in Seoul on August 15, the fifth anniversary of liberation.

2. To this end, a conference of the representatives of political parties and public organizations in the north and south, which aspire after the peaceful reunification of the country, shall be held in Haeju or Seoul between June 15 and 17, and it shall discuss and decide the conditions necessary for peaceful reunification, procedures for holding general elections and establishment of the central election guidance committee.

In response to this appeal, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK adopted a resolution, titled, *On Promoting Peaceful Reunification of the Country*.

But, under the manipulation and on the scenario of the US, the Syngman Rhee clique in south Korea ignited a war of aggression against the north on June 25, 1950.

22. Unleashing of the Korean War by the US

By unleashing the Korean War, the US, which had seen the Korean peninsula as an advance base for realizing its anti-communist and Asia strategy, planned to expand the sphere of its military domination to the

whole of Korea.

Douglas MacArthur, head of the United States army's Far East command, said: By occupying the whole territory of Korea, we can break to pieces the only supply route linking Soviet Siberia to the South and take control of the whole area ranging from Vladivostok to Singapore; at that time there will be nowhere our force cannot reach.

In the summer of 1949, a news dispatch from New York reported: American hardliners, viewing Korea as a strategic point for attacking China, worked out a military action plan that took into account the entry of the south Korean army in this war.

The start of the Korean war was also connected with the serious economic crisis facing the US.

Having accumulated huge profits by expanding beyond comparison during the Second World War, the US economy was plunged into a serious economic recession in 1949.

The industrial output decreased by 15% and the profit of the monopoly capital shrank by 16%, compared to the previous year. Millions lost their jobs, and a serious socio-political crisis was created.

Japanese book *Korean War* noted that the Korean war was a solution to the economic crisis facing the US.

23. The US Instigation of South Korea to the Korean War

One day in May 1949 Muccio, US Ambassador to south Korea, called Sin Song Mo, Minister of National Defence of the south Korean government, and Kim Hyo Sok, Minister of the Home Affairs, to his office, and said: Behind you stands the United States. Trust us and carry out our advice and orders faithfully; power solves all problems; they can be solved only by the power of the US; your job is simply to hasten the time of using that power; I wish you comprehend the situation and our intention well; get thoroughly prepared and do your utmost to shorten the day of general offensive against the north as early as possible.

In October 1949, Syngman Rhee, encouraged by the US, said: We cannot but put an end to north-south division by war; reunification can be achieved only by occupying north Korea.

24. US Preparations for War of Aggression against the North

The US and its Syngman Rhee puppet clique stepped up arms buildup with the objective of attaining ten-to-one superiority of south Korea over the northern half of Korea in terms of armed forces.

The US supplied US-made weapons and gave the

south Korean army American-style training.

On the instructions of the US, the south Korean army units were deployed in an offensive form in the areas on the 38th Parallel with military supplies and equipment necessary for the execution of war concentrated there.

To check up the state of war preparedness and develop actual war capacity of the south Korean army, the US egged it on to perpetrate brisk armed incursions into areas north of the 38th Parallel from 1947. The number of armed provocations committed in these areas amounted to 2 617 in 1949 alone.

The US worked out operation plans for invading the north, as well as the NSC-68, a strategic plan on special actions needed at the time of the outbreak of the war.

The American book *Modern History of America* noted that in starting a war the US had never made complete preparations in its history as it did for the Korean war.

25. Obstacles the US Laid on the Road of Postwar Peaceful Settlement of the Korean Question

Failing to realize its ambition for the control of the whole of Korea with its defeat in the Korean war (1950-1953), the US was dead set against the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea after the war.

Paragraph 60 of Article IV of the Korean Armistice

Agreement stipulates as follows:

“In order to ensure the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, the military Commanders of both sides hereby recommend to the governments of the countries concerned on both sides that, within three 3 months after the Armistice Agreement is signed and becomes effective, a political conference of a higher level of both sides be held by representatives appointed respectively to settle through negotiation the questions of the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, etc.”

The main purpose of the political conference was to prevent foreigners from intervening in Korea's internal affairs by ensuring the complete withdrawal of the US forces and troops of its satellite countries from south Korea and enable Koreans to settle the Korean question on their own.

But, the US manoeuvred to hamper the convocation of the conference from the first day of ceasefire.

Early in August 1953, the US concluded the Mutual Defence Treaty with south Korea for the purpose of perpetuating the US forces' occupation of south Korea and unleashing another war in Korea.

26. Geneva Conference on the Korean Question

A meeting of foreign ministers of the Soviet

Union, the US, France and Britain, held in Berlin, Germany, in February 1954, reached an agreement on discussing urgent international issues including the Korean question in the presence of the countries concerned including the DPRK in Geneva from April 26 the same year.

The Geneva conference was the first international meeting to discuss the Korean question outside the UN in the presence of a DPRK delegation as demanded by the Korean people.

27. DPRK's Proposal at the Geneva Conference

At the Geneva conference, the DPRK delegate advanced a proposal, titled, *On Rehabilitating the National Reunification of Korea and Holding All-Korea, Free Elections*.

The proposal called for, first, holding the general elections of a national assembly that will form a unified government in Korea on the basis of the free expression of will by the entire Korean population, making preparations for these elections, forming an all-Korea committee involving north and south Korean delegates to take urgent measures on the inter-Korean economic and cultural approach, and taking other measures for creating a free atmosphere for, and ensuring the genuine democratic character of the elections.

Second, it demanded withdrawal of all foreign armed troops from the Korean territory within six months to ensure the elections amid a free atmosphere without intervention of foreign countries.

Third, it envisaged relevant countries most interested in maintaining peace in the Far East ensure peaceful development of Korea and thereby provide conditions conducive to the speedy implementation of the task of reunifying Korea peacefully into a single independent state.

28. US Attitude at the Geneva Conference

The US rejected the DPRK's proposal out of hand.

US delegate Dulles opposed withdrawal of the US forces and stuck to the elections under the UN supervision, saying that they could not give up Korea with nothing in hand as hundreds of thousands of their troops were killed in Korea, and that they would not withdraw from Korea.

29. Break-up of the Geneva Conference

The DPRK side's proposal and the efforts of its people to carry it out roused sympathy and support from the world people and brought about vacillation among the delegates of the "allied nations" of the US present at the Geneva conference.

But the US schemed to wreck the conference by replacing its delegate.

The US and south Korea laid down a challenge, claiming that the conference could not continue unless the “authority of the UN” and the “holding of elections under the UN supervision” were sanctioned.

As agreement could not be reached on holding elections for Korea’s reunification, the DPRK delegation stressed the need to reach agreement on other questions, first on the question of maintaining peace in Korea, and advanced a new six-point proposal on providing peaceful conditions for Korea, based on the keen interests of all people aspiring after maintaining peace in Korea and the Far East and easing international tension.

However, the US and its followers wrecked the discussion of the Korean question at the Geneva conference by rejecting the proposal without any reason.

30. Proposals the DPRK Advanced for National Reunification after the Geneva Conference

The Eighth Session of the First Supreme People’s Assembly of the DPRK, held in late October 1954, adopted an appeal to the National Assembly, all political parties and public organizations, personages from all walks of life and all the people in south Korea with a

view to hastening peaceful reunification of the country.

The appeal called for developing relationship and contact between the north and the south to dispel national misfortune and proposed that the Korean people sit together to settle the question of national reunification peacefully.

To this end, it suggested holding a joint conference of representatives from all political parties, public organizations and walks of life in the north and south of Korea or a joint session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the north and the National Assembly of the south either in Pyongyang or Seoul in 1955, and a meeting of the north and south Korean delegations to discuss the questions of holding the joint conference or joint session and beginning economic and cultural exchange, trade, flight, sailing and correspondence between north and south either in Panmunjom on the Military Demarcation Line or in Kaesong in February 1955.

The appeal called all political parties, social organizations and patriotic personages from all walks of life in the north and south to hold mutual liaison, visit and contact to take measures for the peaceful reunification of the country and the authorities of the north and south to guarantee their freedom in all parts of Korea.

31. Concrete Measures Taken by the Government of the DPRK

As a measure to put the October 1954 appeal into reality, the Interior Minister of the DPRK announced in November 1954 that the north was ready to fully ensure free activities and personal safety of the south Korean personages from all walks of life when they would make trip to the northern half with a view to hastening the peaceful reunification of the country.

The delegate of the DPRK to the Military Armistice Commission suggested to the US side that the Korean people who requested to have access to the territory under the military control of either side for nonmilitary purposes would be specifically authorized by both sides of the Military Armistice Commission to have free access to the passage in the Demilitarized Zone agreed upon by both sides, in accordance with paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of Article I of the Military Armistice Agreement.

As the north and south Korean people could not travel to each other's side by the US objection, the DPRK Minister of Posts and Telecommunications sent a letter to his south Korean counterpart, demanding resumption of inter-Korean correspondence to allow the people, who were unaware of how their parents, siblings and relatives were getting along though they were living in the same territory, to exchange letters.

However, these efforts bore no fruit owing to the schemes by the US and south Korean authorities.

32. DPRK's Efforts for Peace and Security

At the Geneva conference held in 1954 for peaceful coordination of the Korean question, the DPRK Government put forward detailed proposals aimed at withdrawing all foreign troops from the Korean peninsula and achieving peace and peaceful reunification as stipulated in the Korean Armistice Agreement, and did its best to reach agreement at least in principle until the last moment of disruption of the conference.

After the Geneva conference came to a rupture owing to the US schemes, the DPRK proposed that the north and the south should refrain from the use of force against each other, make public at home and abroad the will to settle the Korean question by peaceful means, reduce the armed forces of both sides to less than 100 000 and ensure withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea as soon as possible through the declaration of the Supreme People's Assembly in March 1955, declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the statement of the Government in 1956, the statement of the Government in February 1958, etc.

The DPRK reduced its service personnel by 80 000 by August 1956.

On the request of the DPRK Government, the Chinese Government completed the withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers by October 1958.

33. DPRK's Endeavour for National Unity

The Government of the DPRK made persevering efforts to effect many-sided cooperation and exchanges between the north and the south with a view to re-linking the national ties and achieving national unity.

On many occasions including the Geneva conference, the Eighth Session of the First Supreme People's Assembly in October 1954 and the Third Congress of the WPK in 1956, it advanced one patriotic proposal after another aimed at effecting extensive cooperation and exchanges in all sectors between the north and the south and giving relief aids to the displaced people, unemployed and orphans in south Korea.

However, all these proposals and humanitarian measures were scuttled owing to the obstacles laid by the US and the Syngman Rhee puppet clique.

34. April Popular Uprising

In April 1960, the south Korean people including the youth and students rose up in a massive anti-US, anti-fascist resistance in demand of freedom and liberation, new politics and new life.

On April 19, people in Seoul including students stormed into the Capitol Building, beating back the soldiers and policemen and shouting the slogans “Off with corrupt politics!” and “Down with Syngman Rhee government!” and set fire to the Hall of Anti-Communism, Seoul Newspaper offices and headquarters of the Liberal Party. Then, they stoned the offices of the Seoul-based US economic coordinator and the US economic cooperation agency, colonial predatory organs of the US.

The revolt spread to almost all other cities and provinces of south Korea, including Pusan, Inchon, Kwangju, Suwon, Jonju, Taejon and Chungju, destroying the ruling apparatuses everywhere.

On April 26, Syngman Rhee government was finally overthrown.

The April Popular Uprising developed into a struggle to reject the outside forces and reunify the country independently under the slogan “Go to the north, come to the south, meet in Panmumjom!”

35. Proposal on Federation of the North and South

The new situation, in which the spirit for reunification was gaining momentum among the south Korean people after the April 1960 Popular Uprising,

demanding that a new measure be taken to put an end to national division and hasten national reunification.

In keeping with the demand of the changed situation, Kim Il Sung, in his report to the conference held in celebration of the 15th anniversary of national liberation in August 1960, proposed instituting a federation of the north and south as a transitional measure for hastening the independent and peaceful reunification of the country if free north-south general elections were still unacceptable to the south Korean authorities.

Inspired by the DPRK's proposal, the south Korean people staged a massive patriotic struggle to put an end to national division and realize national reunification, creating a serious crisis for the US colonial rule.

36. May 16 Military Coup

The ever-growing struggle of the south Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification and anti-fascist democratization after the April 1960 Popular Uprising drove the US colonial rule into a tight corner.

The US hurriedly plotted for a military coup. The CIA of the US offered detailed orders and necessary funds.

On May 16, 1961, Park Chung Hee-led fascists in the army staged a military coup and proclaimed an

Emergency Martial Law all over south Korea. They then dissolved the National Assembly and completely banned the activities of all political parties and public organizations, as well as public institutions.

As a consequence of the military coup, south Korea was placed under the cruellest and most brutal fascist rule.

In particular the military junta cruelly cracked down on and executed patriots and other people, who advocated reunification, and brutally clamped down on even discussions and movements for reunification by invoking the notorious Anti-communism Law.

This laid a new obstacle on the road of the Korean people's struggle for national reunification.

37. Continued Confrontation between the North and the South in the 1960s

Despite the new grave situation, the Government of the DPRK did not cease its efforts to achieve national reunification.

At the First Session of the Third Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, held in October 1962, Kim Il Sung proposed a series of measures for the withdrawal of US troops from south Korea, conclusion of a peace pact between the north and the south on refraining from attacking each other, reduction of their

respective armed forces to less than 100 000, and economic and cultural cooperation and exchanges between the north and the south.

The Government of the DPRK made positive efforts to put this proposal into reality.

However, the US and Park Chung Hee puppet clique responded to the peaceful initiatives of the DPRK with intensified anti-communist confrontation and war policy.

Consequently, not a slightest contact was made and a stand-off between the north and the south lasted in the 1960s.

38. A New Situation in the 1970s

Entering the 1970s, the aggravated political and economic crises and repeated military defeat plunged the US into a quagmire.

Being elected as the US president at the time, Nixon advertized switch from power politics to dialogue, co-existence and negotiations, and advocated the “peace strategy” of improving relations with big countries and maintaining the status quo with divided nations.

In pursuit of this strategy, the US renounced its long-standing blockade policy towards the People’s Republic of China and embarked on the road of improving its relations with the country.

Nixon’s China visit and improvement of Sino-US

relations had the greatest impact on south Korea.

Park Chung Hee was struck with extreme uneasiness and terror with fear that the same fate may visit him as Chiang Kai-shek who had been supported by the US for decades but abandoned overnight by it.

39. Advancing of a Policy for Wide-ranging Negotiations

In his speech on August 6, 1971, Kim Il Sung, on the basis of a scientific analysis of the changing internal and external situations, put forward a policy for wide-ranging negotiations, expressing readiness to establish contact at any time with all political parties, including the Democratic Republican Party, the ruling party of south Korea, social organizations and individual personages to open a new phase for the national reunification.

As a most accurate reflection of the trend of the times and the desire of the entire nation for reunification, this policy aroused unanimous sympathy and support at home and abroad. The south Korean people from all walks of life and even the opposition parties advocated negotiations with the north and brought pressure to bear upon the south Korean authorities.

40. Beginning of the North-South Dialogue

As the voices demanding wide-ranging negotiations

between the north and the south became louder at home and abroad, the south Korean authorities could not but come to the negotiation table with the north at least in the form of north-south Red Cross talks.

In September 1971 the north-south dialogue began, and since August 1972, full-dress talks of the Red Cross societies of the north and south took place to relieve the misfortune and pains of families and their relatives separated in the north and south.

In the course of this high-level political talks between the north and the south were held.

41. Three Principles of National Reunification

In May 1972, Kim Il Sung met the south side's delegate who came to Pyongyang to attend the north-south high-level political talks, and clarified three principles of national reunification—*independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity*—the fundamental principles to be adhered to by both the north and the south in implementing the common cause of national reunification.

The delegate of the south side expressed his whole-hearted support to them, and the then south Korean ruler said to the delegate of the north side who went to Seoul to attend the north-south high-level political talks that he gave full support to these three principles.

Consequently, on July 4, 1972, the July 4 Joint Statement was made public, the core of which is the three principles.

42. Reunifying the Country Independently

To reunify the country independently is to settle the reunification question of the country by the efforts of the Korean nation itself without relying on foreign forces.

The prerequisite for settling the reunification issue on the basis of independent principle is to withdraw US troops from south Korea and prevent foreign intervention in the internal affairs of Korea. The US occupation of south Korea is the major obstacle to Korea's reunification.

Another important thing is to oppose and foil the attempt for reinvasion by the Japanese militarists.

Having jumped on the US bandwagon, the Japanese militarists are hindering Korea's reunification, spreading tentacles of reinvasion against south Korea.

It is also important to thoroughly reject the great-power worship and treacherous policy of depending on foreign forces pursued by the south Korean authorities.

The great-power worshippers and traitors to the nation act as a guide to the invasion and intervention by foreign forces.

43. Reunifying the Country Peacefully

Reunifying the country peacefully is aimed at avoiding the use of armed forces and promoting peace and harmony between compatriots in settling the reunification question.

The prerequisite for settling the reunification question on peaceful principles is to suspend arms race between the north and south and reduce their armed forces.

Arms race is a factor that gives rise to armed conflict, and its end point is war. To prevent war and reunify the country peacefully it is necessary to eliminate the means of war.

It is also essential to settle all problems arising in the course of reunification by means of dialogue and negotiations.

This is the only just way to finding the most successful solution to the reunification question as suit to its character and in the interests of all compatriots.

44. Adhering to the Principle of Great National Unity in the National Reunification Movement

Adhering to the principle of great national unity in the national reunification movement means achieving the unity of all patriotic forces in the north and south yearning for national reunification, transcending

differences in ideology and system.

To settle the reunification issue in accordance with the principle of great national unity, it is necessary for the north and the south, above all else, to refrain from forcing the ideology and system of one side on the other.

Korea's reunification is a matter of reunifying the divided territory and nation, not a matter of liquidating ideology and system of one side and forcing the ideology and system of the other on it.

An end should be put to the fascist rule and democratization of society achieved in south Korea.

The successive rulers of south Korea restrained people's freedom of discussion over reunification, harshly cracked down on the reunification movement and suppressed the people who advocated reunification.

45. Significance of the Three Principles for National Reunification

Publication of the July 4 Joint Statement was a landmark event that proclaimed birth of the three principles for national reunification as the common reunification programme of the north and south.

The 28th and 30th sessions of the UN General Assembly and the summit meetings and foreign ministers conferences of non-aligned countries adopted resolutions and documents supporting the three

principles for Korea's reunification.

The three principles are basic guidelines and a reunification programme that should be adhered to by the north and south in working out and carrying out reunification policies.

The principle of independence is a fundamental issue related to the destiny of the country and nation and the starting point of the national reunification movement.

The principle of peaceful reunification is the fundamental way to settle the reunification question in accordance with the unanimous desire of all compatriots and the peace-loving people of the world.

The principle of great national unity is a line of action that makes the entire nation unite as one under the banner of national reunification.

The advancing of the three principles for national reunification by Kim Il Sung and his leadership to make it a reunification programme common to the nation is an immortal exploit that will go down in the history of the reunification movement of the Korean nation.

46. "Two Koreas" Policy

With the announcement of July 4 Joint Statement, the sentiments for reunification mounted high across Korea.

The people from all walks of life in south Korea,

including youth and students and democratic personages, not to mention the north Korean people, turned out bravely in the struggle for national reunification.

Frightened by their surging fighting spirit, the US and south Korean authorities schemed to delay Korea's reunification and perpetuate its division.

Egged on by the US, Park Chung Hee made public the "two Koreas" policy in the June 23 Special Statement in 1973.

47. Five-point Policy for National Reunification

Owing to the separatist and treacherous acts of the US and the south Korean authorities, grave difficulties were created on the road of national reunification.

With keen insight into the situation, Kim Il Sung put forward the five-point policy for national reunification on June 23, 1973 to make a new breakthrough in the cause of the peaceful reunification of the country.

The five points are: to remove military confrontation and lessen the tension between the north and south; to achieve multilateral collaboration and interchange between the north and south; to convene a Great National Congress comprising representatives of people of all levels, political parties and social organizations from the north and south; to institute a north-south Federation named the Federal Republic of Koryo; and to

enter the UN under that name.

The five-point policy dealt a decisive blow at separatists at home and abroad and brought fresh confidence and bright prospect to the Korean people desirous of the reunification.

48. Concrete Wall

In 1977, south Korea began building a wall dividing the north and south physically by investing vast amounts of materials and manpower.

As a result, a concrete wall, about 240km long, was built along the Military Demarcation Line on the Korean peninsula.

The wall, 5-8 m high, 10-19 m wide at the bottom and 3-7 m at the top, separated 122 villages of 8 counties and cut off three railway lines, four large rivers and about 220 large and small roads.

The rivers stopped flowing, wild animals were barred from going to and from the north and south, and the natural ecological environment was seriously damaged.

Although there are many military structures, large and small, in the world, can nowhere be found such a wall as the concrete wall on the Korean peninsula that severs the national territory into halves and aggravates national confrontation.

49. DPRK's Endeavour to Carry Out the Five-point Policy for National Reunification

The DPRK made sincere efforts to bring the north-south dialogue into reality despite the ceaseless heinous, treacherous acts of the south Korean authorities.

Its patient endeavour led to the contact in early 1979 of liaison delegates of the north and south for forming a preparatory committee for national reunification and the contact in early 1980 of working delegates for talks of prime ministers of both sides.

Meanwhile in south Korea, dictator Park Chung Hee was shot to death by his confidant, and dictatorship led by Chun Doo Hwan emerged.

Owing to the Kwangju massacre perpetrated by the Chun Doo Hwan puppet clique under the backing of the US and their new provocative acts against the DPRK, the north-south relations got frozen again.

50. Proposal on Founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo

In his report to the Sixth Congress of the WPK on the work of the Central Committee in October 1980, Kim Il Sung advanced a new proposal on reunifying the country by drawing the north and the south together into a federal state.

He said that the country should be reunified by

founding a Federal Republic through the establishment of a unified national government on the condition that the north and south recognize and tolerate each other's ideas and social systems, a government in which the two sides are represented on an equal footing and under which they exercise regional autonomy with equal rights and duties. He also set forth the ten-point policy the DFRK should enforce.

51. Contents of the Proposal on Founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo

The proposal on founding the DFRK is, in essence, to reunify the country and nation by drawing the north and south together into a federal state, leaving the ideas and social systems existing in the north and south as they are.

In the unified state of a federal type, a supreme national federal assembly should be formed with an equal number of representatives from the north and south and an appropriate number of representatives of overseas nationals; this assembly should form a federal standing committee to guide the regional governments of the north and south and to administer all the affairs of the federal state. The unified state of a federal type will be a unified state established on principles of one nation and regional autonomy in two different social systems,

embracing the whole territory and all the people of Korea.

As the unified government of the federal state, the supreme national federal assembly and the federal standing committee, its permanent organ, should discuss and decide political affairs, matters of national defence, foreign affairs and other matters of common concern, related to the interests of the country and the nation as a whole, fairly and in accordance with the desire for national unity, cooperation and reunification; they should also promote the coordinated development of the country and the nation and realize unity and cooperation between the north and south in all spheres. The unified government of the federal state should respect the two social systems, as well as the wishes of the administrative organizations, every party, every group, and every section of the people in the north and south and prevent one side from imposing its will on the other.

Under the leadership of the federal government, the regional governments in the north and south should follow an independent policy within limits that are consistent with the fundamental interests and demands of the whole nation, and strive to narrow down the differences between the north and south in all spheres and achieve the coordinated development of the country and the nation.

The federal state should be called the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo, after the first unified state that once existed in Korea and is well known to the world, in reflection of the common political aspirations of the north and south for democracy.

The DFRK should be a neutral country which does not join any political and military alliance or bloc.

52. Special Features of the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo

Despite the communities in the category, the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo has special features distinguishable from other federal states known so far in history in the purpose of its founding, its pattern and structure and its legal foundations.

Unlike other federal states, it will be a state of a homogeneous nation, founded on the basis of different social systems and composed of one nation and two autonomous regional governments within the framework of one unified state.

Accordingly, there are special features in the principle of composition of the federal state and distribution of power between the unified government and the autonomous regional governments.

With the publication of the proposal on founding the DFRK, a new phase was opened of building a federal

state despite differences in ideologies, ideals and socio-political systems existing within the homogeneous nation.

53. Basic Contents of the Ten-point Policy for the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo

The main contents of the policy the DFRK should put forward and carry out are;

First, the DFRK should adhere to independence in all state activities and pursue an independent policy.

Second, the DFRK should effect democracy throughout the country and in all areas of society and promote great national unity.

Third, the DFRK should effect economic cooperation and exchange between the north and south and ensure the development of an independent national economy.

Fourth, the DFRK should realize north-south exchange and cooperation in the spheres of science, culture and education and ensure the uniform progress of the country's science and technology, national culture and arts, and national education.

Fifth, the DFRK should reopen transport and communications links between the north and south and ensure the free use of the means of transport and communications across the country.

Sixth, the DFRK should ensure a stable livelihood for

all the people including the workers, peasants and other working masses and promote their welfare systematically.

Seventh, the DFRK should remove the state of military confrontation between the north and south and form a combined national army to defend the nation against invasion.

Eighth, the DFRK should defend and protect the national rights and interests of all overseas Koreans.

Ninth, the DFRK should deal properly with the foreign relations established by the north and south prior to reunification, and should coordinate the foreign activities of the two regional governments in a unified manner.

Tenth, the DFRK should, as a unified state representing the whole nation, develop friendly relations with all the countries of the world and pursue a peaceful foreign policy.

54. Proposal on Forming a Preparatory Committee for Founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo

A joint conference of political parties and social organizations for realizing the proposal on founding the DFRK was held in Pyongyang in November 1980.

The joint conference discussed the question of

forming a preparatory committee for founding the DFRK.

The conference proposed holding a preliminary meeting of representatives of political parties and social organizations in the north and south and overseas national organizations in Pyongyang or Seoul or a third country in near future to discuss and settle all problems related to it.

It also sent a letter to the south Korean people and overseas Koreans, which clarified the measures for the early realization of the proposal on founding the DFRK.

The addresses included politicians and personages of all walks of life in south Korea and overseas personages and other compatriots, totalling 5 300.

The south Korean fascist authorities responded to it by removing from public office and arresting or imprisoning on every conceivable charge almost all the addresses of the letter in south Korea.

55. Proposal on Tripartite Talks

In January 1984, a joint meeting of the Central People's Committee and the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK discussed the agenda item, *On Taking New Measures for the Peaceful Settlement of the Korean Question*, and proposed holding tripartite talks by allowing the south Korean authorities

responsible for the growing tension in Korea to attend talks between the DPRK and the US.

The ensuing Third Session of the Seventh SPA deliberated the agenda item, *On Securing Peace in Korea and Hastening the Independent, Peaceful Reunification of the Country*, gave full support to the proposal of the joint meeting on holding tripartite talks, and decided to send an appeal to parliaments and governments of different countries of the world, calling on them to conduct an energetic international movement to withdraw US troops and nuclear weapons out of south Korea for peace in Korea, Asia and the rest of the world.

The proposal on tripartite talks was an expression of the sincere efforts of the DPRK to address the grave situation on the Korean peninsula which was on the crossroads of war and peace by means of dialogue and negotiations and an expression of its ardent desire for remaining faithful to the cause of global peace.

56. DPRK's Relief Aid to South Korean Flood Victims

The heavy rain that lasted between late August and early September 1984 displaced many people in several parts of south Korea.

The DPRK sent 50 000 *sok* (one *sok* equals 4.9629 bushels of rice), 500 000 metres of cloth, 100 000 tons of

cement and a large amount of medicines to the flood victims.

This compatriotic measure created an atmosphere of national reconciliation and unity between the north and south and brought about a growing nationwide demand for reunification.

57. Resumption of North-South Dialogue

The Government of the DPRK took a flexible measure aimed at improving the inter-Korean relations in keeping with the requirements of the prevailing situation.

On October 1, 1984, when the delivery of relief goods was at its height, it called on the south to hold north-south dialogue of different channels including the Red Cross talks and economic talks.

Consequently, five rounds of north-south economic talks took place from November. At the talks the north side insisted on effecting wide-ranging economic exchanges and cooperation between the north and south; in particular, it proposed setting up a North-South Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation chaired by vice-premiers of both sides to develop the north-south relations on a large scale.

Although it agreed to the just proposal of the north side in fear of the public opinion at home and abroad, the south side hampered the final agreement, making this or

that excuse at the stage of working out a relevant document.

58. First Exchange of Home-visiting Groups between the North and South

From May 1985 several rounds of North-South Red Cross Talks took place in tandem with the North-South Economic Talks.

At the talks held alternately in Pyongyang and Seoul, the north side put forward an epoch-making proposal on effecting free travel of the separated families and their relatives with a view to relieving their misfortunes and pain as soon as possible, and made positive efforts to bring it into reality.

According to the agreement reached at the talks, the north and south exchanged Red Cross art troupes and home-visiting groups for the first time after liberation on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of national liberation.

59. Question of Nonaggression between the North and South

The Fourth Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held in April 1985 proposed that the north and south hold parliamentary talks to discuss the question of adopting a joint declaration on

nonaggression, and specified the proposal in its letter to the south Korean National Assembly.

At the preliminary contacts for north-south parliamentary talks, the south side, sticking to its unreasonable insistence that adoption of a nonaggression declaration was beyond the function of parliament, hampered the progress of the talks; it demanded that the talks discuss the question of instituting an apparatus for working out a “reunification constitution.”

By staging the Team Spirit 86 joint military exercises participated by huge armed forces totalling more than 200 000 including US troops from February 1, 1986 and thus creating an acute situation on the Korean peninsula, it scuttled the multiple layers of talks under way between the north and south.

60. Talks of Military Authorities Not Realized

In June 1986, the north proposed holding talks to be attended by military authorities in the north and south including the commander of the US forces in south Korea.

But the south side refused to accept the proposal. Owing to the US and south Korean authorities' negative attitude to dialogue and peace, the north-south relations became more acute and the danger of war grew further.

61. Proposal on Holding High-Level North-South Political and Military Talks

At the First Session of the Eighth Supreme People's Assembly held in December 1986, Kim Il Sung put forward a proposal on holding high-level north-south political and military talks.

In January 1987, the north side sent a letter specifying the proposal to the south Korean authorities.

Recognizing that the basic factor for the unsettlement of the north-south relations and the question of national reunification lay in the existence of acute political confrontation and military stand-off between the north and south, the letter proposed holding talks of high-level north-south political and military authorities with real power in these fields to discuss and settle the questions of removing the political confrontation by refraining from slandering each other and by realizing multiple layers of cooperation and exchange and the questions of easing military tension by reducing the armed forces, stopping arms race, turning the Demilitarized Zone along the Military Demarcation Line into a peace zone, suspending large-scale military exercises, increasing the authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and organizing a neutral nations' supervision force.

The south Korean authorities kept evading the

proposal, and then came up with the “unification under a free, democratic system” in mid-May 1987, rejecting dialogue and peaceful reunification.

62. Proposal on Phased Reduction of Armed Forces

In July 1987, the Government of the DPRK, through a statement, made a new proposal on effecting large-scale phasedown of armed forces.

The proposal envisaged that the north and south would maintain less than 100 000-strong forces each from 1992 by reducing them by three stages from 1988 to 1991, the staged withdrawal of US troops in south Korea would be conducted alongside the phased reduction of armed forces in the north and the south, and the US would withdraw all its armed forces including nuclear weapons from south Korea and abolish its military bases there when the armed forces of the north and south were reduced to 100 000 each.

The proposal also raised the questions of the north and south informing the other side of the state of disarmament and withdrawal of the US forces and making it public, verifying by stage the state of disarmament and withdrawal, turning the Demilitarized Zone along the Military Demarcation Line into a peace zone and stationing a neutral nations supervision force there, and holding multilateral arms reduction

negotiations to discuss all these matters.

To make a breakthrough in actual arms reduction, the Government of the DPRK clarified on unilaterally reducing the armed forces of the Korean People's Army by 100 000 by the end of 1987.

63. Four Principles for Ensuring Peace and Comprehensive Peace Proposal

The joint conference in November 1988 of the Central People's Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Administration Council of the DPRK, put forward four principles for ensuring peace and a comprehensive peace proposal as a peace programme common to the nation on the basis of analysis and evaluation of the urgency of the question of ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula and the practical possibility of settling the peace question of the country.

The four principles for ensuring peace require that peace on the Korean peninsula should be oriented towards national reunification, guaranteed by the withdrawal of foreign armed forces, ensured by disarmament in the north and south and realized through dialogue between authorities responsible for the aggravated tension.

The comprehensive peace proposal consists of phased withdrawal of the US forces, disarmament in the

north and south for ensuring durable peace on the Korean peninsula, and the relaxing of the present political and military confrontation between the north and south.

64. Proposal on Consultative Meeting

In his New Year Address for 1990, Kim Il Sung advanced a new policy for pulling down the wall dividing the north and south and effecting free travel and fully opening the door between them and, for this purpose, convening a consultative meeting to be attended by the heads of their authorities and leaders of their political parties.

In order to carry out this policy, the north held a joint conference of representatives of the Government and political parties and adopted a letter to be sent to the south side.

But the south Korean authorities rejected the proposal, claiming that there was no such a wall.

In this condition, the north side asked the south side to send a visitors group comprised of workers, farmers, youth and students to the north to confirm the presence of the wall on the spot, promising that it would hand over to them photographs of the wall and their footage.

The south side refused even to take them, claiming that it was a “political propaganda.”

65. Five-point Policy for National Reunification

Kim Il Sung advanced the five-point policy for national reunification in his policy speech at the First Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in May 1990.

The main contents of the five-point policy are as follows:

First, tension on the Korean peninsula should be eased and a peaceful climate for the country's reunification created.

Second, the wall of division should be removed and free travel and a full-scale open-door policy effected between the north and south.

Third, the north and the south should develop their foreign relations on the principle of creating an international climate favourable for the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the country.

Fourth, the dialogue for national reunification should be developed.

Fifth, a nationwide united front for the country's reunification should be formed.

66. New Proposal on Disarmament

In May 1990, the Central People's Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Administration Council of the

DPRK held a joint meeting and published a new proposal on disarmament to ensure peace on the Korean peninsula.

The new disarmament proposal was a more specified version of the November 1988 comprehensive peace programme in keeping with the realistic condition. It consists of four parts—confidence building between the north and south, reduction of armed forces in the north and south, withdrawal of foreign forces, and disarmament and ensuring peace afterwards.

Confidence building envisages limit to military drills and exercises, turning the Demilitarized Zone along the Military Demarcation Line into a peace zone, and taking safety measures to prevent casual collisions and their expansion. Reduction of armed forces clarifies the questions of reducing the armed forces in the north and the south by three stages within three or four years and informing of and verifying the state of arms reduction each other. Withdrawal of foreign forces presents the questions of the north and south turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and making joint efforts for pulling all foreign forces out of the Korean peninsula. Disarmament and ensuring peace afterwards clarifies the questions of stationing a neutral nations supervision force in the Demilitarized Zone, forming and running a north-south joint military commission and

adopting non-aggression declaration and reaching agreement on large-scale disarmament through negotiations between the north and south.

67. National Reunification Prize

The National Reunification Prize is a prize of honour conferred on those who rendered distinguished services in the work for national reunification.

In July 1990, on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the country's liberation, it was instituted to make an acknowledgement by the state of the compatriots in the north, south and abroad, who performed outstanding exploits in the struggle for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country.

The prize is awarded to the patriots and democratic figures who made strenuous efforts for the realization of the country's reunification and rendered distinguished services to the country and people by displaying matchless devotion and self-sacrificing spirit in the sacred struggle for the national reunification.

68. First Pan-National Rally

On August 15, 1990, the First Pan-National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country was held in a grand way at Panmunjom on the Military Demarcation Line.

According to the resolution adopted at the rally, the Pan-National Alliance for Korea's Reunification was established in November that year. In August 1992, the Pan-National Alliance of Youth and Students for Korea's Reunification was formed.

69. Pan-National Alliance for Korea's Reunification

The Pan-National Alliance for Korea's Reunification is a patriotic and nationwide organization of reunification movement of the Korean compatriots in the north, south and abroad fighting for the realization of national reunification.

Its objective is to achieve great national unity and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, and its guideline is the three principles for national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and grand national unity—agreed upon and made public by the north and south.

It embraces patriotic political parties, organizations and individual personages in the north, south and abroad, and is formed and run on democratic principles and under agreement among the representatives of the north, south and abroad. The political parties and organizations affiliated with it have equal capacity, rights and duties to take joint actions in the movement

for national reunification.

The supreme deliberative apparatuses of the organization include the Pan-National Rally for National Reunification and its substitute, Joint Conference of Members of the Central Committees from the North, South and Abroad, and Joint Presidium and Joint Secretariat. It has regional headquarters respectively in the north, south and abroad, and under the overseas headquarters there are branches in Japan, the US, Canada, Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, China and Australia.

70. Pan-National Alliance of Youth and Students for Korea's Reunification

The Pan-National Alliance of Youth and Students for Korea's Reunification is a pan-national organization embracing the Korean youth and students in the north, south and abroad and their organizations aspiring after the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

It consists of central organizations, Joint Secretariat and regional organizations.

The central organizations include the General Assembly, the Central Committee and the Joint Presidium. It has regional headquarters respectively in the north, south and abroad.

71. New Line and Policy for Great National Unity

Thanks to the flexible proposals and persevering efforts made by the north side, from September 1990 the north-south high-level talks were held and political and social figures, sportspeople, artistes and other fellow countrymen from various sections got together to hold dialogues and reunification festivals in Pyongyang, Seoul and abroad.

In his New Year Address for 1991, Kim Il Sung clarified once again the principled stand of the Workers' Party of Korea on ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula and creating peaceful preconditions for the reunification of the country to accelerate the historic cause of national reunification, and made an epoch-making reunification proposal on reaching national agreement on the ways for national reunification and realizing a great unity of the whole nation.

In August 1991 Kim Il Sung advanced a new line and policy for great national unity in his talk to senior officials of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea and members of the North Side's Headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for Korea's Reunification, titled, *Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our Nation*.

72. Agreements between the North and South

At the fifth north-south high-level talks held in

December 1991, the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation and Exchange between the North and the South was adopted.

Following it, the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula was adopted after three rounds of contact of representatives of the north and south to discuss the nuclear issue.

With the adoption of the agreements of the nation, the first of their kinds since the July 4 North-South Joint Statement, a foundation was laid for the north and the south to deepen consultation in the political, military, economic, cultural and all other fields, and a realistic possibility was created for promoting mutual confidence and national unity and for opening a phase favourable for national reunification.

In particular, now that the north and south gave assurance for nonaggression and confirmed their common will to settle the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, a breakthrough was made for easing the prevailing tension, preventing the danger of nuclear war and ensuring durable peace.

73. 10-point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation

In April 1993 Kim Il Sung put forward the 10-point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation to

pave the way to national reunification with the united efforts of the Korean nation.

The programme elucidates to the full the general objective, ideological foundation, principles and ways for achieving great national unity.

It embodies the sublime desire of the 70 million Korean compatriots for solid unity of the entire nation by transcending differences in ideas, ideals and systems and for reunification and prosperity of the Korean nation with a history spanning 5 000 years.

74. Basic Contents of the 10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation

1. A unified state, independent, peaceful and neutral, should be founded through the great unity of the whole nation.

2. Unity should be based on patriotism and the spirit of national independence.

3. Unity should be achieved on the principle of promoting co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification

4. All political disputes that foment division and confrontation between fellow countrymen should be ended and unity should be achieved.

5. The fear of invasion from both south and north,

and the ideas of prevailing over communism and communization should be dispelled, and north and south should believe in each other and unite.

6. The north and south should value democracy and join hands on the road to national reunification, without rejecting each other because of differences in ideals and principles.

7. The north and south should protect the material and spiritual wealth of individuals and organizations and encourage their use for the promotion of great national unity.

8. Understanding, confidence and unity should be built up across the nation through contact, exchange visits and dialogue.

9. The whole nation, north, south and overseas, should strengthen its solidarity for the sake of national reunification.

10. Those who have contributed to the great unity of the nation and to the cause of national reunification should be honoured.

75. 10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation Acceptable to Everybody

The 10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation puts forward the founding of a pan-national, unified state, independent, peaceful and neutral,

as its general objective and the love for the nation and the spirit of national independence as its ideological foundation; it defines promoting co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification as the basic principle of unity.

The programme reflects the will and desire of all the Korean people who are desirous of achieving the national unity and reunification, as it makes clear the questions of the north and south putting an end to all political disputes, dispelling the fear of invasion by the south or north and the ideas of prevailing over communism and communization and believing in each other and uniting, the question of recognizing and protecting state ownership, cooperative ownership and private ownership, before and after reunification, the question of granting special favours to those who have performed exploits for the sake of the great unity of the nation and the reunification of the country, to patriotic martyrs and to their descendants, and the question of dealing leniently with those who had turned their back on the nation in the past but, after repenting of their past mistakes, have taken the road of patriotism and assessing people fairly according to the contribution they have made to the cause of national reunification.

76. Joint Statement of the DPRK and the US

The Joint Statement of the DPRK and the United States, adopted at the first round of government-level talks concerning the “nuclear crisis” on the Korean peninsula held in New York between June 2 and 11, 1993, reads in the main as follows;

The DPRK and the United States have agreed to principles of

- Assurances against the threat and the use of force, including nuclear weapons;
- Peace and security in a nuclear-free Korean peninsula, including impartial application of full scope safeguards, mutual respect for each other’s sovereignty, and non-interference in each other’s internal affairs; and
- Support for the peaceful reunification of Korea

77. Agreed Framework between the DPRK and the USA

The Agreed Framework between the DPRK and the USA was published in October 1994 as a result of the DPRK-US talks that ran almost one and a half years from June 1993, when the situation on the Korean peninsula reached a brink of war owing to the “nuclear inspection” and “special inspection” rockets the International Atomic Energy Agency, egged on by the US, kicked up.

The agreed framework reads as follows;

The United States will undertake to make arrangements for the provision to the DPRK of a LWR (light-water reactor) project with a total generating capacity of approximately 2 000 MW (e) by 2003 and will deliver annually 500 000 tons of heavy oil for heating and electricity production until the completion of the first LWR power plant.

Upon receipt of the US assurances for them, the DPRK will freeze its graphite-moderated reactors and related facilities and will allow the IAEA to monitor it.

The two sides will move towards full normalization of political and economic relations; within three months of the date of this document, both sides will reduce barriers to trade and investment, including restrictions on telecommunications services and financial transactions. As progress is made on issues of concern to each side, each side will open a liaison office in the other's capital and upgrade bilateral relations to the ambassadorial level.

The United States will provide formal assurances to the DPRK against the threat or use of nuclear weapons by the former while the DPRK will consistently take steps to implement the North-South Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and engage in north-south dialogue, as this Agreed Framework will

help create an atmosphere that promotes such dialogue.

Finally the Agreed Framework urged both sides to work together to strengthen the international nuclear non-proliferation regime.

The US President confirmed his commitments to accurately implementing the Agreed Framework in his letter of assurance sent to Chairman Kim Jong Il on October 20, 1994.

78. Preparations for North-South Summit Talks

Kim Il Sung made arrangements for north-south summit talks to realize as soon as possible the desire of the whole nation for the reunification of the country.

This led to an agreement between the north and south to hold the north-south summit talks in Pyongyang from July 25, 1994.

Working hard day and night for the north-south summit talks, Kim Il Sung ratified an important document related to the talks on July 7.

On the early morning of July 8, 1994, the very next day, he passed away.

79. Return to Worsened Relations between the North and South

In their attempts to capitalize on the death of Kim Il Sung, an unexpected big loss for all the

countrymen, the south Korean authorities fomented distrust and confrontation between the north and south and drove the situation on the Korean peninsula to a dangerous phase in collusion with the outside forces.

As a result, the situation on the Korean peninsula which had been moving towards national reconciliation and reunification returned to that of confrontation.

80. Three Charters for National Reunification

Kim Jong Il published the work, titled, *Let Us Carry Out Comrade Kim Il Sung's Instructions on National Reunification*, on August 4, 1997.

In the work he formulated the three principles for national reunification, 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation and the plan of founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo as the three charters for national reunification by elaborating into an integral system the immortal exploits Kim Il Sung performed all his life for the cause of national reunification, and defined the three charters as programmatic guidelines that must be adhered to by the entire Korean nation that yearns after reunification.

The three charters are a perfect reunification charter both in name and reality as they reflect the actual conditions in Korea and the unanimous desire and demand of the Korean nation for reunification, and

elaborate every problem for the realization of the country's reunification into an integral system, ranging from the basic principles for national reunification to the question of motive force of reunification, the mode and ways for reunifying the country, and the full picture of a reunified state including the mode of administering the federal state and its policy.

81. Five-Point Policy for Great National Unity

In his letter to the national symposium held in April 1998 to mark the 50th anniversary of the historic Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea, titled, *Let Us Reunify the Country Independently and Peacefully through the Great Unity of the Entire Nation*, Kim Jong Il put forward the five-point policy for great national unity, which embodies his steadfast determination and will to achieve great national unity and reunification without fail by defending and carrying forward the idea, exploits, rich experience and traditions created by Kim Il Sung.

The five-point policy for great national unity is as follows:

Great national unity must be based thoroughly on the principle of national independence.

The entire nation must unite under the banner of

patriotism, the banner of national reunification.

The north and south must improve their relations.

We must reject domination and interference of the foreign forces and fight against the anti-reunification forces.

The whole nation must visit one another, hold contacts, promote dialogue and strengthen solidarity.

82. Historic North-South Summit Talks

When all the Korean people at home and abroad were speeding up the grand sacred march towards national unity and reunification under the banner of the three charters for national reunification advanced by Kim Il Sung and the five-point policy for great national unity advanced by Kim Jong Il, the historic north-south summit talks were held in Pyongyang from June 13 to 15, 2000.

The meeting and talks between Kim Jong Il, Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, and Kim Dae Jung, President of the Republic of Korea, resulted in the release of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, which elucidates all principled problems arising in developing the north-south relations and reunifying the country, including settling of the question of national reunification independently by the concerted efforts of the Korean nation responsible for it.

83. June 15 North-South Joint Declaration

1. The north and the south agreed to solve the question of the country's reunification independently by the concerted efforts of the Korean nation responsible for it.

2. The north and the south, recognizing that the low-level federation proposed by the north and the commonwealth system proposed by the south for the reunification of the country have similarity, agreed to work together for the reunification in this direction in the future.

3. The north and the south agreed to settle humanitarian issues as early as possible, including the exchange of visiting groups of separated families and relatives and the issue of unconverted long-term prisoners, to mark August 15 this year.

4. The north and the south agreed to promote the balanced development of the national economy through economic cooperation and build mutual confidence by activating cooperation and exchange in all fields—social, cultural, sports, public health, environmental and so on.

5. The north and the south agreed to hold an authority-to-authority negotiation as soon as possible to put the above-mentioned agreed points into speedy operation.

84. Core of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration

The core of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration is the ideal of By Our Nation Itself.

In other words, the underlying spirit of the joint declaration is to open the road to national reunification, unity and co-prosperity independently by the concerted efforts of Korean nation while rejecting outside forces that are the very one that caused the division of Korea and the major obstacle to its reunification.

85. Mode of Reunification Agreed through the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration

The North-South Joint Declaration ushered in a new era of the reunification movement by achieving a pan-national agreement at the highest level on the mode of reunification true to the spirit of national independence, the core of the three principles for national reunification—the ideal of By Our Nation Itself.

Through the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, the north and south recognized that the low-level federation proposed by the north and the commonwealth system proposed by the south for the reunification of the country had similarity, and agreed to work together for the reunification in this direction in future.

This is a common mode of reunification agreed by

the north and south for the first time in the history of national division, which had witnessed repetition of the vicious cycle of distrust and confrontation.

86. Significance of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration

The June 15 North-South Joint Declaration is a declaration of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, based on the three principles for national reunification.

The ideal of By Our Nation Itself, which is the core of the joint declaration, brims over with the thoroughgoing spirit of independence, the will to defend peace and the spirit of great national unity.

The birth of the north-south joint declaration provided the Korean nation with a landmark that sheds light on the most reasonable and broadest avenue to the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification.

87. June 15 Reunification Era

After the adoption of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, a new era which had been inconceivable in the bygone days, began to unfold on the Korean peninsula.

Multiple layers of dialogue and negotiations between the north and south were conducted in the political,

economic, cultural, military and other fields.

The severed north-south railways and roads were re-linked, and the work of economic cooperation became brisk.

In particular, the Korean nation demonstrated far and wide its will for reunification through the sports sector.

At the opening ceremony of the September 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, immediately after the adoption of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, sportspeople of the north and south, led by a reunification flag, entered the stadium together, rousing acclamation from people across the world.

Reunion of members of families and their relatives, separated in the north and south, was realized in succession, and humanitarian cooperation between the north and south was under way on a large scale.

This reality, born of the June 15 Joint Declaration, was called fruition of the June 15 reunification era.

88. October 4 Declaration

A meeting and talks between Kim Jong Il, Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, and Roh Moo Hyun, President of the Republic of Korea, were held in Pyongyang between October 2 and 4, 2007.

The meeting and talks resulted in the release of the

Declaration for the Improvement of North-South Relations, and Peace and Prosperity, signed by leaders of the north and the south.

89. Basic Contents of the October 4 Declaration

The Declaration for the Improvement of North-South Relations, and Peace and Prosperity reads as follows.

1. The north and the south shall uphold and positively implement the June 15 Joint Declaration.

2. The north and the south agreed to definitely convert north-south relations into those of mutual respect and confidence, transcending the differences in ideology and system.

3. The north and the south agreed to closely cooperate with each other in the efforts to put an end to hostile military relations and ensure détente and peace on the Korean peninsula.

4. The north and the south shared the understanding about the need to put an end to the existing armistice mechanism and build a lasting peace mechanism and agreed to cooperate with each other in the efforts to push forward with the issue of arranging the meeting of heads of state of three or four parties directly concerned on the Korean peninsula to declare an end to war.

5. The north and the south agreed to reenergize economic cooperation and bring about its sustained

development on the principles of ensuring common interests and co-prosperity and meeting each other's need with a view to balanced development of the national economy and common prosperity.

6. The north and the south agreed to develop exchange and cooperation in social and cultural fields such as history, language, education, science and technology, culture and the arts and sports to add brilliance to the time-honoured history and fine culture of the nation.

7. The north and the south agreed to push forward with humanitarian cooperation.

8. The north and the south agreed to strengthen cooperation in the efforts to protect the interests of the nation and the rights and interests of overseas Koreans on the international arena.

90. October 4 Declaration, a Programme for Implementing the June 15 Joint Declaration

The declaration, published at the north-south summit meeting on October 4, 2007, is a comprehensive agreement aimed at improving north-south relations and achieving peace and prosperity of the nation by applying the idea of great national unity contained in the three charters for national reunification; as such, it is a programme for achieving national unity.

This is because it elucidates all immediate practical problems arising in achieving great national unity, ranging from setting up legal and institutional mechanism for developing north-south relations in the direction of reunification to putting an end to hostile military relations and ensuring detente and peace on the Korean peninsula, putting an end to the armistice mechanism and building a lasting peace mechanism, effecting economic cooperation for balanced development of the national economy and common prosperity, developing national culture, pushing forward with humanitarian cooperation, and protecting the rights and interests of overseas Koreans.

91. Monuments Reflecting the Aspiration for Reunification

The Korean people have waged a vigorous struggle for reunification over the past 70-odd years.

In this course, several monuments reflecting the Korean nation's aspiration for reunification were set up in the north.

Among them are the Monument to the Unified Front, the Monument Inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's Signature for National Reunification and the Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification.

92. Monument to the Unified Front

The Monument to the Unified Front was set up in commemoration of the Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea, which was held under proposal and leadership of Kim Il Sung in Pyongyang in April 1948.

The monument stands on Ssuk Island in the middle of the Taedong River in Pyongyang, where Kim Il Sung held a consultative meeting with the leading members of the joint conference after the conference was over.

It is made up of 56 granite slabs, symbolic of 56 political parties and public organizations in the north and south that attended the joint conference.

Its front side is inscribed with instructions of Kim Il Sung, which reads:

“Never before in the history of our nation had so many representatives of political parties and social organizations with different political views got together to discuss the destiny of the country and nation and reached unanimity. The north-south joint conference will go down for all time to come in the history of our nation as a great event which united patriots of all social strata behind the banner of territorial integrity and national reunification.”

93. Monument Inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's Signature for National Reunification

The monument stands at Panmunjom on the Military Demarcation Line, which divides the Korean peninsula into the north and south.

On July 7, 1994, the very day before his demise, Kim Il Sung went over an important document related to the north-south summit talks and finished it by signing it, *Kim Il Sung July 7, 1994*, the last signature he left behind.

In order to convey to posterity the exploits of Kim Il Sung, who put forward many proposals for reunification, led all the Korean people to this end for scores of years after the country's division and went over a historic document designed to relieve the country of the tragedy of national division and accomplish the sacred cause of national reunification, the Korean people set up the monument inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's signature to the document.

The granite monument is 9.4m long, and the plane inscribed part is 7.7m long.

94. Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification

The Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification, symbolic of the steadfast will of Korean

people to reunify their country under the banner of the three charters for national reunification put forward by Kim Il Sung and formulated by Kim Jong Il, stands at the entrance to Thongil Street, Pyongyang.

The monument was unveiled in August 2001, when a new reunification era characterized by the ideal of By Our Nation Itself was ushered in thanks to the historic north-south summit meeting and the adoption of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration in 2000.

The granite monument consists of the tower body of arch type representing two women of the north and south in traditional Korean costume holding up the emblem of the three charters and the plinth bearing relieved sub-thematic sculpture groups. Below the tower body, 30m high and 61.5m wide, symbolic of the three charters for national reunification and the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration, runs a thoroughfare, showing symbolically how the way to the reunification of Korea is being paved.

The tower weighs 7 000 tons, reflective of 70 million Korean people's desire for reunification, and the door of the hall exhibiting commemorative plaques weighs three tons, signifying that the door to the reunification should be opened on the strength of solidarity of the compatriots in the north, south and abroad.

95. Essence of the Question of Korea's Reunification

The question of Korea's reunification is above all that of putting an end to domination and intervention by foreign forces and achieving national sovereignty on the nationwide scale.

National sovereignty is vital to every nation.

The problem of national sovereignty for Korea is to win back its territory and people from imperialists and establish national sovereignty on the nationwide scale. This is connected with the fact that south Korea is under the military occupation and colonial rule by the US.

It is also the question of removing distrust and confrontation between the north and south and achieving national unity.

For over 70 years of national division, misunderstandings and distrust arose and confrontation became fierce between the north and south.

Owing to the anti-north, confrontation policy pursued the US and south Korean authorities, the homogenous Korean nation could not achieve unity. The question of Korea's reunification is never a question of north and south dominating and subjugating each other, but the question of removing distrust and confrontation between the north and south and achieving national unity.

96. Character of the Question of Korea's Reunification

The question of Korea's reunification is, to all intents and purposes, an internal issue of the Korean nation that should be settled by the Korean people themselves.

Unlike the nations or countries which were divided as they had been defeated in the aggressive wars, Koreans are a nation that won their liberation by repelling the imperialist occupation forces after being maltreated under their colonial rule. Therefore, there is no reason, whatsoever, why the Korean question should be put under international coordination after the Second World War.

The Korean people have not only the right to settle the question of their country as full-fledged masters but also every condition and possibility for successfully settling their reunification question by their own efforts without the intervention by another country.

The question of Korea's reunification is an internal issue of the Korean nation also because it can be settled only within the frame of one nation and one state.

Reunification of Korea differs in character from the question of establishing a unified state in multiethnic countries. In a multiethnic country, the unification of the state is realized by means of alliance of different nations, not by national unification.

Hence, the question of unification in such countries is posed as an inter-ethnic affair, not as an internal affair of a nation.

By contrast, the question of Korea's reunification is that of reunifying what was originally one nation and one state into one, and thus it is neither an inter-ethnic affair nor an inter-state affair.

No one has either the right to intervene or meddle in the question of Korea's reunification or the reason and condition to do so.

97. Urgency of Korea's Reunification

Korea's reunification must be realized at the earliest possible date in order first to relieve the Korean nation of all misfortunes and pain caused by the division of the country.

The pain of the Korean nation caused by the division is immeasurable. There is no Korean who does not suffer the pain and misfortunes of national division, no matter which class and which social stratum he or she may belong to and whether he or she may live in the north, in the south or abroad.

For decades since they were separated in the north and south, millions of family members and their relatives have lived in anxiety, unaware of one another's fate.

Korea must be reunified as soon as possible also for unified development and prosperity of the Korean nation.

The division disallows the manpower and natural resources in the north and south to be used rationally for the coordinated development of the country.

The US occupation of south Korea and the subsequent split of the national territory into two cut off all relations between the north and south, thus laying a big obstacle to the unified development of the whole Korean society.

Korea must be reunified without delay for the Korean nation to be freed from the danger and holocaust of war.

The US and the south Korean authorities have tenaciously pursued war policy, clinging to anti-DPRK confrontation. They have beefed up their military strength and armed forces on a huge scale, and ceaselessly perpetrated north-targeted war exercises.

Confrontation, tension and danger of war continue to prevail on the Korean peninsula.

98. Inevitability of Korea's Reunification

Korea's reunification is inevitable because, first, putting an end to domination and intervention by outside forces and reunifying the divided country into one is the aspiration and demand of all the Korean people.

Second, the country's reunification is a lawful requirement for the coordinated development of the Korean nation as a homogeneous nation.

Third, complete liberation of the nation and establishment of a reunified, independent state is the basic requirement of the current times, which is opposed to domination and subjugation and aspires after independence.

99. National Reunification Policy Set Forth at the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea

In his report to the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea on the work of the Central Committee, held in May 2016, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said:

“National independence, great national unity, peace and a federal system—this is the policy our Party is following in its struggle to pave the way for the country's reunification by implementing the three charters for national reunification. We should uphold the banner of national independence and great national unity, and strive hard to ensure lasting peace on the Korean peninsula and achieve reunification of a federal style. In this way, we can build an independent and prosperous reunified state at the earliest possible date, as all our compatriots desire.”

100. Most Pressing Issue in Achieving Korea's Reunification

The most pressing issue in achieving the independent reunification of Korea is to bring about a radical improvement in inter-Korean relations.

The north and south should respect each other and, as partners in national reunification, work together to open a new phase in improving inter-Korean relations and reunifying the country.

The north and south should work to ease military tension and settle all issues through dialogue and negotiations. In order to improve inter-Korean relations and open up an avenue to national reunification, it is necessary to respect the accords common to the nation and implement them in a consistent manner.

The countries responsible for Korea's division and its neighbours should refrain from inciting distrust and confrontation between the north and south and should act in ways beneficial to Korea's reunification. The US, the main culprit in the division of the Korean nation and the prevention of its reunification, should discontinue its sanction-and-stifle schemes against the DPRK, and stop egging the south Korean authorities on to step up inter-Korean confrontation; in short, it should stop interfering on the Korean peninsula. Japan

should abandon its ambition of reinvading the Korean peninsula, reflect on the past crimes it committed against the Korean nation, and apologize for them. And it must not place obstacles in the way of Korea's reunification.

Korea's neighbours should respect its sovereignty and play a positive role in ensuring that the issue of Korea's reunification can be solved independently and peacefully in line with the demand and will of the Korean nation.

UNDERSTANDING KOREA (10) **(REUNIFICATION QUESTION)**

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